

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for removing dust, dirt and like from the surface of a flexible paper substrate and accurately positioning same comprises a transport assembly for conveying the paper substrate along a path of travel. The transport assembly includes a rotating vacuum drum having an outer surface over which the paper substrate is trained in the direction of drum rotation as it moves along the path of travel. Openings are provided in the outer surface of the vacuum drum, and a suction source is connected to those openings so that dust, dirt and the like on the surface of the paper substrate are drawn away by the suction as the paper substrate moves along the path of travel over the drum. The linear speed of the paper substrate is slightly more or less than the surface velocity of the vacuum drum so that the paper sweeps across the drum surface during the cleaning process.

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